# THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA HELD A MEETING IN THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006.

The meeting of the **New Albany City Council** was called to order by President Jeff Gahan at 7:30 p.m. The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Price, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Kochert, Mrs. Crump, Mr. Seabrook, and President Jeff Gahan. Mr. Blevins and Mr. Messer were not present.

**OTHERS:** City Attorney Shane Gibson and City Clerk Marcey Wisman.

**ALSO:** John Rosenbarger, Adam Dickey, Scott Wood, Planning and Zoning, Brian Dixon, EMC, Paul Wheatley, Economic Development Director, and Mayor James E. Garner, Sr.

#### APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Coffey moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 11, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor except Mrs. Crump who abstained.

Mr. Coffey moved to approve the public hearing minutes of September 11, Mrs. Crump second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Coffey moved to approve the public hearing minutes of August 23, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor except Mr. Gahan who abstained.

Mr. Schmidt moved to approve the minutes of the August 29 special meeting, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor.

### **COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:**

**Valla Ann Bolovshak**, 600 E. Main Street, addressed the 2005 audit regarding the transfer of funds and the need to pay those funds back.

**Mrs.** Garry addressed this issue and explained that those funds did not need to be paid back because they were done by resolution or ordinance passed by the council.

**Ms. Bolovshak** asked questions regarding the sewer utility, and stated that she feels that the sewer billing department is in shambles and she does not understand why they would give a 33.5% increase to an individual in that department. She also addressed the issue of the 911 money that is available to give the communication workers a raise and stated that she felt a committee should be appointed to pursue that money.

**Mr. Price** asked her to explain what is going on with the Greenway Project because he read in the paper that the first phase of the project would only go to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Ms. Bolovshak** stated that it goes from the Shermin Minton Bridge all the way down to the levy.

**Mr.** Coffey stated that he went to the last Commissioners meeting regarding the 911 money and if they draw up an ordinance they will provide the city with \$130,000.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS - CITY OFFICIALS:**

**Mr. Kochert** addressed the 33.5% raise for the department head of the sewer billing office. He stated that there is no other department head being paid as low as her and that she has a much heavier work load than when she started. He also pointed out that they should each have lists showing that they are now filing liens and working to collect on delinquent bills.

**Mr. Schmidt** passed out an email that he received from IACT regarding a seminar on Hometown Gathering to discuss property taxes and he would like for everyone to attend. Said memo is on file with the City Clerk's office.

**Ron Toran** stated that he heard that they had questions and he is here to answer them.

Mr. Seabrook asked how they have over \$600,000 in overtime.

**Chief Toran** explained that with their contract they have to have so many men on each truck and when someone calls in sick or on vacation this causes overtime.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the run policy of the fire department, whether or not a two tier system would improve the over-time problem, and whether or not the ambulance service made or lost money.

**Chief Toran** invited the council to come down to his office and he would show them anything they wanted to see.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS - MAYOR:**

**Mayor Garner** stated that the first meeting of November there will be an ordinance to change the salary of the EMT and we will be hiring civilian paramedics.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the restructuring of the ambulance service for the fire department.

**Mayor Garner** also reported that he brought back a check from Indianapolis for \$1.2M for the Greenway project that he dropped off to the Corp of Engineers.

**Mr. Seabrook** asked if he had named his appointment for the Stormwater Board.

Mayor Garner stated that he has and they will be meeting next week.

## **APPOINTMENTS:**

## **APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:**

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: READING

A-06-12 An Ordinance Setting Longevity for Non-Union Coffey 1 Employees of the City of New Albany, Indiana

Mr. Coffey introduced A-06-12 and motioned for the first reading by title only, Mr. Price second.

**Mr.** Coffey amended it to "Union and Non-Union" employees. Section One would read "all non-union and union employees not receiving longevity in their contract" and remove step 6 of the longevity pay scale.

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Mrs. Crump asked how they can decide on unions when the Mayor has to negotiate that.

**Mr. Coffey** stated that they have to approve the contracts.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the structure of the longevity and whether or not people would be grandfathered in for their longevity.

All voted in favor for the first reading.

A-06-08 Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates Schmidt 2&3

Mr. Schmidt introduced A-06-08 and motioned for the second and third readings by title only, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor. Bill A-06-08 became ordinance A-06-35.

A-06-09 An Ordinance to Fix the Non-Reverting Budgets Price 2&3 For the Year 2007

Mr. Price introduced A-06-09 and motioned for the second and third readings by title only, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor. Bill A-06-09 became ordinance A-06-36

A-06-10 An Ordinance Setting Salaries for the Year 2007 Seabrook 2&3
For Sworn Members of the New Albany Police
And Fire Departments; and An Ordinance Setting
Salaries for the Year 2007 for Members of the
Communications (CWA); and An Ordinance for
Setting Salaries for the Year 2007 for Members of
The ASCME Union

Mr. Seabrook introduced A-06-10 and motioned for the second and third readings by title only, Mr. Kochert second, all voted in favor. Bill A-06-10 became ordinance A-06-37

A-06-11 An Ordinance Setting Salaries for the Year 2007 Kochert 2&3 For Non-Bargaining Unit Employees

Mr. Kochert introduced A-06-11 and motioned for the second and third readings by title only, Mr. Coffey second,

Mr. Kochert wanted to amend the ordinance to leave the Building Commissioner at the same rate as 2005 and to amend the Sewer billing Department head to \$1300 biweekly, Coffey second.

**Mrs. Crump** stated that she does not mind giving a 33.5% increase to the department but to be divided among all of the individuals working in the department.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the salaries of the sewer billing employees and what there work load is currently and will be in the future.

Mr. Kochert's motion to amend did not carry with a vote of 3 ayes and 4 nays.

Mr. Coffey made a motion to amend the pay of the sewage billing office workers by giving 20% increase to the department head and a the other sewer billing workers would receive a 7% increase.

Mayor Garner asked if he could discuss this with Mrs. Welsh and Mrs. Garry.

Mr. Seabrook moved for a 5 min recess at 8:37, Mrs. Crump second, all voted in favor.

**Mr. Gahan** called the meeting back to order at 8:47 p.m.

Mr. Coffey moved that the sewer billing employees salaries would be increased so that the manager would receive \$1,166.27 bi-weekly, and the three bookkeepers would receive \$941.13 bi-weekly, Mrs. Crump second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Kochert moved that the Building Commissioner's salary for 2007 be \$40,900.60, Mr. Schmidt second, motion did not carry for lack of a majority vote of the entire council with 4 ayes and 3 nays.

Mr. Kochert introduced A-06-11 and motioned for the second and third readings by title only as amended, Mrs. Crump second, all voted in favor. Bill A-06-11 became ordinance A-06-38

G-06-17 An Ordinance Establishing Reporting Requirements Coffey 2&3 For the Sewer Board

Mr. Coffey introduced G-06-17 and motioned for the second and third readings by title only, Mr. Seabrook second,

Mr. Coffey amended section 2 from "All Projects" to "Planned Projects" and added that "any emergency repairs that are necessary will be reported at the next council meeting", Mr. Seabrook second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Coffey introduced G-06-17 for the second and third readings as amended, Mr. Seabrook second, all voted in favor. Bill G-06-17 became ordinance G-06-39.

**Mr. Price** asked if we could do budgets earlier next year.

Mrs. Garry stated that we could.

Mr. Coffey stated that R-06-22 could be struck for the tabled ordinances.

There being no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

	Jeff Gahan, President
	Common Council, City of New Albany
ATTEST:	_
Marcey Wisman, City Clerk	